

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3198

To amend title 46, United States Code, with respect to the navigation of submersible or semi-submersible vessels without nationality.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 2008

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. SMITH, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. SNOWE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 46, United States Code, with respect to the navigation of submersible or semi-submersible vessels without nationality.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. OPERATION OF SUBMERSIBLE OR SEMI-SUB-**
4 **MERSIBLE VESSEL WITHOUT NATIONALITY.**

5 (a) FINDING AND DECLARATION.—Section 70501 of
6 title 46, United States Code, is amended—

7 (1) by inserting “(1)” after “that”; and

8 (2) by striking “States.” and inserting “States

9 and (2) operating or embarking in a submersible or

1 semi-submersible vessel without nationality and on
 2 an international voyage is a serious international
 3 problem, facilitates transnational crime, including
 4 drug trafficking, and terrorism, and presents a spe-
 5 cific threat to the safety of maritime navigation and
 6 the security of the United States.”.

7 (b) SUBMERSIBLE OR SEMI-SUBMERSIBLE VESSEL
 8 DEFINED.—Section 70502 of title 46, United States Code,
 9 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:
 10 “(f) SUBMERSIBLE OR SEMI-SUBMERSIBLE VES-
 11 SEL.—The term “submersible or semi-submersible vessel”
 12 means—

13 “(1) a vessel that is capable of operating below
 14 the surface of the water, including both manned and
 15 unmanned watercraft; or

16 “(2) a watercraft constructed or adapted to be
 17 capable of putting much of its bulk under the sur-
 18 face of the water.”.

19 (c) OPERATION PROHIBITED.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 70503(a) of title 46,
 21 United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

22 “(a) IN GENERAL.—An individual may not knowingly
 23 or intentionally—

1 “(1) manufacture or distribute, or possess with
 2 intent to manufacture or distribute, a controlled sub-
 3 stance on board—

4 “(A) a vessel of the United States or a ves-
 5 sel subject to the jurisdiction of the United
 6 States; or

7 “(B) any vessel if the individual is a cit-
 8 izen of the United States or a resident alien of
 9 the United States; or

10 “(2) operate by any means or embark in any
 11 submersible or semi-submersible vessel that is with-
 12 out nationality and that is navigating or has navi-
 13 gated into, through or from waters beyond the outer
 14 limit of the territorial sea of a single country or a
 15 lateral limit of that country’s territorial sea with an
 16 adjacent country.”.

17 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

18 (A) The heading for section 70503 of title
 19 46, United States Code, is amended to read as
 20 follows:

21 **“§ 70503. Offenses”.**

22 (B) The chapter analysis for chapter 705
 23 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by

- 1 striking the item relating to section 70503 and
- 2 inserting the following:
“70503. Offenses”.

